General Assembly

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Sixty-third session
Agenda item 91 (*b*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the First Committee (A/63/391)*]

63/82. Report of the Conference on Disarmament

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Conference on Disarmament,[1]

Convinced that the Conference on Disarmament, as the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community, has the primary role in substantive negotiations on priority questions of disarmament,

Recognizing the need to conduct multilateral negotiations with the aim of reaching agreement on concrete issues,

Recalling, in this respect, that the Conference has a number of urgent and important issues for negotiation,

Taking note of active discussions held on the programme of work during the 2008 session of the Conference, as duly reflected in the report and the records of the plenary meetings,

Taking note also of the increased deliberations of the Conference due to the constructive contribution of its member States, the work done under the authority of the 2008 Presidents of the Conference, including focused structured debates on all substantive agenda items and with the participation of experts from capitals, and the cooperation among the Presidents of the Conference,

Taking note further of significant contributions made during the 2008 session to promote substantive discussions on issues on the agenda, as well as of discussions held on other issues that could also be relevant to the current international security environment,

Stressing the urgent need for the Conference to commence its substantive work at the beginning of its 2009 session,

Recognizing the address by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, as well as the addresses by Ministers for Foreign Affairs and other high-level officials, as expressions of support for the endeavours of the Conference and its role as the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum,

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/63/27).

Bearing in mind the importance of efforts towards revitalization of the disarmament machinery, including the Conference,

Recognizing the importance of continuing consultations on the question of the expansion of the Conference membership,

1. *Reaffirms* the role of the Conference on Disarmament as the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community;

2. *Calls upon* the Conference to further intensify consultations and explore possibilities with a view to reaching an agreement on a programme of work;

3. *Takes note* of the strong collective interest of the Conference to build on the increased level and focus of its activities through 2008 and to commence substantive work as soon as possible during its 2009 session;

4. *Welcomes* the decision of the Conference to request its current President and the incoming President to conduct consultations during the intersessional period and, if possible, to make recommendations, taking into account all relevant proposals, past, present and future, including those submitted as documents of the Conference, views presented and discussions held, and to endeavour to keep the membership of the Conference informed, as appropriate, of their consultations, as contained in paragraph 53 of its report;

5. *Requests* all States members of the Conference to cooperate with the current President and successive Presidents in their efforts to guide the Conference to the early commencement of substantive work in its 2009 session;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure the provision to the Conference of adequate administrative, substantive and conference support services;

7. *Requests* the Conference to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session the item entitled "Report of the Conference on Disarmament".

61st plenary meeting
2 December 2008